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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Unofficial UB Procedure in Handling Death Sentences	DATE DISTR.	25 March 1954
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	

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1. As a general rule, the UB (Security Police) is not disposed to carry out sentences of the Polish courts with the degree of severity recommended. This applies particularly to death sentences. More often than not, the UB, on the basis of instructions received through the Party, prefers to keep the condemned prisoners alive, especially important figures, so that they can be used in the future to further the Communist cause.

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2. several instances of this unofficial UB amnesty procedure. For example, Wincenty KWIECINSKI and Adam DOBOSZYNSKI who were given the death penalty at the Krakow trials are still alive in Mokotow prison. Edward BZYMEK-STRZALKOWSKI who was involved in the same trial and got the death sentence was also saved by the amnesty law and is now presumed to be free. Witold PAJOR and Stanislaw NIENALTOWSKI, involved in the START trials, were also amnestied but their present whereabouts are not known. these persons are still alive because they have been called upon from time to time to supply the UB with information on other cases.

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3. It is a matter of government policy not to publicize individual amnesties or clemency actions especially with respect to persons sentenced to death. These actions are not taken for humanitarian reasons but strictly for utilitarian purposes. The procedure applies only to selected cases and the interests of the regime are the deciding factor in the decisions.

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